

IOWA BIRD LIFE

PUBLISHED QUARTERLY BY THE

IOWA ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION

VOL. VIII

SEPTEMBER, 1938

NO. 3



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The central design of the Union's official seal is the Eastern Goldfinch, designated State Bird of Iowa in 1933.

Publications of the Union: Mimeographed letters, 1923-1928; 'The Bulletin,' 1929-1930; 'Iowa Bird Life,' beginning 1931.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: In Iowa, \$1.00 a year (includes membership dues). Outside of Iowa, 50c a year. Special rate for all libraries, 50c a year. Single copies 15c each. (Keep the Editor informed of your correct address.)

EDITORIAL AND PUBLICATION OFFICE
WINTHROP, IOWA

Entered as second-class matter February 9, 1932, at the post office at Winthrop, Iowa, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

EXTREME NORTHEASTERN IOWA FOR BIRD OBSERVATION

By ARTHUR J. PALAS
POSTVILLE, IOWA

In this article we will deal only with the Mississippi River valley and the adjoining region in Allamakee County. Most Iowa bird students are familiar with the McGregor region. The same general features prevail from McGregor to New Albin. At this time the physical features of the area must be considered with reference to the recent river projects and the effect of these upon bird life by reason of the dredging in the construction of the dams, the impounding of the waters and the extensive cutting of timber.

From McGregor north to Dam No. 9, three miles north of Harpers Ferry, the timber has not been cut. Nevertheless, the territory is changed in that the water now has a permanent higher level. Where in other years large areas were dry land during August, we now find the same areas covered with several feet of water. Where American Bitterns and Bobolinks were observed in 1937, the region is now unsuited to them. In time areas adjoining will develop vegetation and food conditions suitable for these birds. With less changes in the water level, some of the areas may become more suitable than before for some of our nesting birds.

From Dam No. 9 north past Lansing to the State line the trees have been cut from most of the river bottom. There are a few exceptions where part of the land has a higher elevation near New Albin. From the territory that has been cleared of trees many birds must have been driven to seek new territory. As a result we have had, during 1937 and 1938, more than the usual number of reports of the Northern Pileated Woodpecker. More of these birds are now seen in the woods along the borders of the valley and in the wooded ravines that are tributary to the Mississippi.

The water areas on the river are now much more extensive. Areas covered with shallow water are now much greater. This will result in large numbers of herons and egrets resorting to the region during the months of July, August, September and October. This condition is even now evident. Over the area where the trees have been removed the large birds are easily observed. The scattered trees left standing on higher ground offer convenient roosting facilities.

At present the whole valley is probably less suited to ground-nesting ducks than formerly, but as suitable areas develop, it would seem that in the future the valley will be better suited to such ducks than before the building of the dams. It is a question as to how soon we may expect to see suitable vegetation and food for the ducks. If and when feeding conditions become favorable, the whole valley will certainly attract more ducks during spring and fall migrations than heretofore.

Mallard, Blue-winged Teal, Shoveller and Wood Duck have heretofore nested in the region. Adult Hooded Mergansers with young have also been observed during June, but authentic nesting reports of this duck do not seem to be at hand.

After the middle of July "large white birds" were reported from various points north of the dam. These were either American Egrets or Little Blue Herons as both were present. On July 31, 1938, from one mile to 2½ miles north of Lansing, I observed 16 Little Blue Herons. They ranged from some all-white individuals to others with considerable red on throat and with blue on wings. Little Blue Herons of fully adult color were not seen. Later I also saw American Egrets in the vicinity. As the water gets lower, fishing is better for herons and egrets. Great Blue, Green and Black-crowned Night Herons were also present. Snowy Egrets and Yellow-crowned Night Herons may be expected.

Turkey Vultures have been found nesting along some of the cliffs, as one would expect in a region so well suited to their flight. Bald Eagles, immature and adult, have been observed during summer months as well as in winter, but there are no nesting reports for many years. It was long suspected that the Duck Hawk was nesting in the region, and a nest with four young was found in the spring of 1938 on the ledge of a cliff two miles south of Lansing.



THE UPPER IOWA RIVER

Named the Oneota by the Indians that formerly inhabited the region, this stream, which rises in Howard and flows through Winneshiek and Allamakee Counties, has a beautiful setting and is one of the most picturesque water courses in the State. This photograph is reprinted from 'The Palimpsest', through courtesy of the State Historical Society of Iowa.

Ruffed Grouse, formerly so common over the region, are still found, but in greatly reduced numbers. They are at this time more abundant in the region near New Albin than farther south.

To find the Northern Pileated Woodpecker you should visit the heavily timbered islands south of Dam No. 3. If that is found impractical during summer months, you should look for them in heavy timber along the valleys of tributary streams. My enthusiasm for one of these tributaries impels me to mention it at every opportunity—the Upper Iowa River. For Iowa scenic beauty, it takes highest rank.

Some of the more unusual nesting birds of the region are the Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Prothonotary Warbler (formerly very common on the river islands near Lansing), Blue-winged Warbler, Louisiana Water-Thrush, Bobolink and Savannah Sparrow. I do not know of the nesting of the Brown Creeper, Black and White Warbler, Cerulean Warbler, and Chestnut-sided Warbler in the region, but from the presence of these birds during the breeding season, one would suspect that they do nest.

The region offers so many unusual situations in water, timber, bluffs and available food, that no one person could undertake to list all the desirable places for bird observation and study. There is one location, however, that, if you have the time, you should include in your program. This is the region immediately north of Harpers Ferry. This locality has always had some wintering ducks as there are several fresh water creeks that enter the river, leaving open water for the ducks. Last winter ducks were also found on the open water near the locks of the dam. During February and March there have always been a fair supply of Herring and Ring-billed Gulls, but last season they appeared in unusually large numbers. This was probably due to the fact that the conditions created by the construction of the dam had imprisoned and killed large numbers of fish under the ice. Herons and egrets find excellent fishing in their season. Opportunities for good observation are many.

About a mile south of the dam, on higher land of the bottom, is a planting of evergreen trees covering about six acres. These trees have been standing for about 30 years and, as they are removed from farm buildings, offer shelter for many forms of wild life. Last winter I found the Long-eared Owl and Red-breasted Nuthatch there quite regularly. I estimated that from 150 to 200 Cardinals used the shelter. At each of my visits last winter I found the Cardinals in the vicinity. Near at hand were extensive weed patches and a field of corn that was not harvested until in January. Wild grape vines and sumac offered additional shelter and food.

GENERAL NOTES

A Robin Mishap.—On June 30, 1938, when I was in the cellar, I heard a strange noise which seemed to be coming from the chimney. Investigating, I found a baby Robin that was almost exhausted. I took it outdoors and put it on the ground in the shade near some water. Standing near by, I watched it, and in about ten minutes it drank some water, flew into the next yard, stayed there a few minutes and then flew away.—DOROTHY JONES, Davenport, Iowa.

The Extensiveness of the Starling Invasion.—The Starling has spread into every county in Iowa, at first with a skeleton crew, which has quickly increased. To what proportions it will grow, time alone will tell. During the past summer we have found Starlings nesting within the city limits of Sioux City, in both the Morningside and Crescent Park districts. Short trips into Nebraska show that the Starling has completely invaded the northeast part of that state, and similar trips up to 100 miles in southeastern South Dakota show the Starling as a common bird around most of the farms. This has all happened in the short space of three or four years.—WM. YOUNGWORTH, Sioux City, Iowa.

Feeding of Grit to Young Birds.—One morning during the past summer the writer had occasion to witness a procedure which he had previously overlooked and which may or may not be of common occurrence. A female English Sparrow patiently picked up tiny particles of sharp bright cinders and grains of sand and fed these grits to her three obedient offspring. The little birds awaited their turns and took a piece of grit each time the mother bird offered it to them. In all, this parent bird must have picked up and fed to the youngsters no less than 25 particles before she decided they had had enough for one sitting. The observation was made from a distance of seven or eight feet.—WM. YOUNG WORTH, Sioux City, Iowa.

Notes from Cedar Rapids.—On May 15, 1938, on a pond about five miles from Cedar Rapids, I observed a pair of Dowitchers (Long-billed). They were feeding busily—probing into the mud on the shore of the pond. Cattle in the pasture didn't bother them. Dr. Warren Keck found a Western Grebe on Cedar Lake in Cedar Rapids on March 29, 1938. Several members of the Cedar Rapids Bird Club went to see the bird that day, but the next day it was gone. On January 2, 1938, Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Petranek and I saw a Brown Thrasher in one of our city parks. It had no doubt wintered there.—LILLIAN SERBOUSEK, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Red-breasted Nuthatches and Mockingbird at Dubuque.—Almost every day from December 1, 1937, to March 10, 1938, a pair of Red-breasted Nuthatches visited the feeding station of Mrs. Ira Whitney in Dubuque. They preferred sunflower seeds and walnuts. They disregarded peanuts and turned to suet only when the other food was gone. The station was just outside an upstairs window, and the birds were observed within two feet.

About the first of February, 1938, a Mockingbird appeared at the feeding station of Mrs. Ed Herron, who lives near the edge of the city. The bird was seen near the house, often several times a day, every day during the next five weeks. It liked the walnuts and suet at the station, and proved a sociable bird, sunning itself in the vine at the porch window and flying about the yard. This is the first record of the Mockingbird to be established definitely in the Dubuque area, and it seems strange that it should be made in winter.—MRS. R. W. JOHNSON, Dubuque, Iowa.

The Northern Pileated Woodpecker in Buchanan County.—One ordinarily thinks of the Pileated Woodpecker as a bird of the heavy timber. In the northeastern corner of Iowa, where it is a permanent resident in small numbers, it is seldom seen outside of this habitat. We have only a remnant of heavy timber in Buchanan County. Along Buffalo Creek near Winthrop, where my home is located, there is only a very narrow belt of woodland bordering the stream. My first record for the Pileated Woodpecker in Buchanan County was made on the morning of May 4, 1938. I was plowing with horses in a small field near Buffalo Creek on this date. I was greatly surprised when a black woodpecker, almost as large as a Crow, flew over me, as I had not suspected that there was a Pileated within many miles. The sun was shining, and as the bird was about 30 feet from the ground and quite near to me as it flew over, I had a good look at it. It alighted in a tree and remained there while I plowed to that end of the field. A noisy freight train on the Illinois Central, the tracks of which lie along the opposite side of this field, did not disturb the bird. I left my plow and tried to approach the woodpecker, but it flew to another tree some distance away, then, flying in a leisurely way over the open fields, with characteristic woodpecker undulations, it proceeded to the southeast and was soon lost to my sight.—FRED J. PIERCE.

Summer Notes from Sioux City.—On the morning of June 8, 1938, I was guiding a group of boy scouts under the leadership of Ivan Boyd of Shelby, Iowa. We were going around to the different ponds on the Missouri bottoms south of Sioux City and had stopped to show the boys some Arkansas Kingbirds which were new to them when our attention was called to a large bird several hundred yards out in a listed corn-field. We approached the bird and found it to be a Blue Goose. The goose took wing and flew over to Brower's Lake. This bird may have been injured by hunters during the flight several weeks before. I went back later to see the bird, but it could not be found.

On July 17, 1938, the Sioux City Bird Club assisted me in conducting a nature tour of Stone Park. The call of the Ovenbird was heard several times by the group, but the bird could not be seen in the dense undergrowth. It is unusual to find one here in the summer months.—WILFRED D. CRABB, Sioux City, Iowa.

Summer Observations in Delaware and Allamakee Counties.—On July 29, 1938, I observed an adult Northern Pileated Woodpecker in the Backbone State Park, Delaware County. In the park on August 5 I observed an adult and a well-fledged young Pileated Woodpecker. They were on the timberland bluffs, three-fourths of a mile west of the central picnic area and on the north side of the Maquoketa River. This was in an area of transition between maple-linden and white oak forest near bluff slopes.

In the open country north of the Backbone Park the Bartramian Sandpiper was observed on July 18, 19, 23 and 28, 1938; two of the birds were in a timothy field.

While with George Kaufman of Lansing on August 10, 1938, I heard the call of the Pileated Woodpecker and saw the large oblong nest holes of this species in basswood trees three miles north of Lansing. Conspicuous birds among the islands in the Mississippi north of Lansing were a flock of Black Ducks. Wm. Albert and Mr. Kaufman estimated their number at about 200. On the same day (August 10) a flock of nearly 150 American Egrets were feeding on the Iowa shore of the Mississippi, just below the mouth of the Upper Iowa River.—EMMETT POLDERBOER, New Hartford, Iowa.

Bird Observations from a Canoe.—On April 14, 15, 16 and 17, 1938, I came down the Des Moines River by canoe. I started canoeing at Dolliver State Park, Webster County, and went upstream nearly to Coalville, which is seven miles from Fort Dodge. From there I came downstream to Des Moines, a distance of 118 miles. The weather on April 14 and 15 was warm and the skies were clear, but on the evening of the 15th it began raining and continued to rain until late the next evening. On the 17th the skies cleared. A list of birds, 66 species in all, was made from the canoe. The birds seen around camp are not included. The list follows. Pied-billed Grebe, Double-crested Cormorant, Great Blue and Black-crowned Night Herons, Am. Bittern, Canada Goose, Mallard, Baldpate, Am. Pintail, Blue-winged Teal, Shoveller, Scaup, Turkey Vulture, Sharp-shinned, Cooper's, Rough-legged, Red-tailed and Sparrow Hawks, Osprey, Bob-white, Am. Coot, Killdeer, Greater and Lesser Yellow-legs, Herring and Ring-billed Gulls, Mourning Dove, Great Horned and Barred Owls, Belted Kingfisher, Flicker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Downy and Red-headed Woodpeckers, Phoebe, Blue Jay, Crow, Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, House Wren, Brown Thrasher, Robin, Bluebird, Golden-crowned and Ruby-crowned Kinglets, Cedar Waxwing, Starling, Myrtle Warbler, Eastern and Western Meadowlarks, Rusty and Red-winged Blackbirds, Bronzed Grackle, Cowbird, Cardinal, Towhee, Slate-colored Junco, English, Tree, Chipping, White-crowned, White-throated, Fox and Song Sparrows.—BEN FERRIER, Des Moines, Iowa.

Notes from Clayton County.—Mockingbird. Two records—one seen by Miss Althea R. Sherman, at National, August 16, 1931; one seen by the undersigned, at Giard, July 4, 1936.

Bell's Vireo. One seen on my property at Giard, June 19, 1933, by Chas. J. Spiker and me. I saw another in the same willow grove on June 8, 1936.—O. P. ALLERT, Giard, via McGregor, Iowa.

Bell's Vireo in Delaware County.—Mr. Allert's above record of Bell's Vireo caused me to look up DuMont's reference to the bird in his 'Revised List of the Birds of Iowa' (1933). He says, in part: "... Somewhat rare in the northeastern portion, breeding throughout its range ... Allert and Pierce did not report it from Clayton and Buchanan Counties." Allert has now recorded it in Clayton County, and I would like to add my record—not for Buchanan County but for Delaware, which is the adjoining county to the east. On August 13, 1934, I was on a field trip with Wm. Youngworth of Sioux City. We were beside Hartwick Lake, south of Delhi in Delaware County, when the Bell's Vireo was seen. I was not familiar with this vireo or its song, and my companion pointed out the bird. We heard its very characteristic song several times, and it flew from one small bush to another, on cut-over timber land. There are few records for the bird in northeastern Iowa, but it is possible that it has been overlooked by bird students on frequent occasions.—FRED J. PIERCE.

RECENT BIRD BOOKS

THE LOG OF TANAGER HILL, by Marie Andrews Commons (Williams & Wilkins Co., Baltimore, Md., 1938; cloth, pp. i-xvii + 1-244, 13 pls. and a map; price, \$2.50).

The literature of bird-banding becomes increasingly voluminous. The published articles on banding have kept pace with the rapidly growing number of people engaged in this fascinating work. In this country we have one major magazine devoted to banding, while articles on the subject are scattered through all the bird journals. As a full-length book on banding birds 'The Log of Tanager Hill' is somewhat of a novelty, but we may look for further books of the sort as the activities of the banders progress.

Mr. and Mrs. Commons decided to take up bird-banding as a sort of experiment after they had listened to a banding program at an American Ornithologists' Union convention in 1922. The beginning was a modest one, with only a few traps in operation. Mr. Commons, whose health was failing, found banding a pleasant occupation to take the place of more strenuous diversions which he had been forced to give up. For Mrs. Commons the handling of the birds and the keeping of records offered an absorbing pastime which developed into a serious study. Their banding station soon occupied a major place in their daily lives. The trap line was extended to take care of a large number of birds.

The surroundings of the Tanager Hill station are ideal for attracting various groups of birds. On the shore of Lake Minnetonka, not far from Minneapolis, Minnesota, it overlooks lake and marsh, timber and cultivated fields, as well as gardens, orchards, lawns and shrubbery. Both migrant and summer resident birds are here in abundance. Beginning in 1923, banding at this station was conducted for eight successive years. During that period (1923-1930) 169 species were identified at the station, and 97 species were banded. The total number of birds banded was 18,024. The book sets forth in careful detail all that took place at the station from day to day. Necessarily there is some repetition, but at no point do we find it dull reading, for Mrs. Commons is a nature lover with ability to fill in with illuminating descriptions of the seasonal aspects of flowers and vegetation, changes

in the weather, and many other nature pictures as she saw them at Tanager Hill. The book is replete with entertaining narration and valuable data. The last 35 pages are devoted to analysis of return and recovery records, with full data for each record given in tabulated form. The binding—red cloth with black lettering—is in true tanager colors.—F. J. P.

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A BOOK OF BIRDS, compiled by Mary Priestley (Macmillan Co., New York, 1938; cloth, pp. 1-384, 82 wood engravings by C. F. Tunnicliffe; price, \$2.50).

This book offers several hours of entertainment and is especially recommended for the general reader who may have but a casual interest in birds. An hour spent with it is certain to whet his appetite for more of this sort of reading and to arouse his interest in bird life. Beginning as a private scrapbook of the compiler, Mrs. Priestley, the work was expanded until it reached publication as this anthology of prose and poetry about birds. There are selections from the writings of a wide range of authors—Arnold, Beebe, the Bible, Browning, Coleridge, Cuvier, Defoe, Dickens, Gurney, Hudson, Huxley, Keats, Lynd, Milton, Peattie, Ross, Izaak Walton, White and Whitman, to mention only a few. Some of the quotations are brief, others cover two or three pages, and perhaps there is a little more emphasis on the literary than on the ornithological side. Poems are sprinkled through the book, but most of it is prose.

Many readers will wonder why the American writers were overlooked, and will search in vain for representative selections from Audubon, Burroughs, Chapman, Thoreau and others who wrote vivid descriptions of our birds. There are two brief excerpts from letters by Audubon, experiences with Road-Runner and Ivory-billed Woodpecker are quoted from George Miksch Sutton, and Donald Culross Peattie and a few others describe some American scenes; but most of the authors quoted and the birds described are European. Reading of Old World birds is always interesting, however, as we make comparison with what we know of our own birds. There are liberal quotations from Gilbert White's classic, 'The Natural History of Selborne'. Those who haven't read Gilbert White will be glad of this introduction and will be likely to get a copy of his book and read it in its entirety. The woodcuts are unusually lifelike and brighten up the pages very nicely.—F. J. P.

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HUNTING WILD LIFE WITH CAMERA AND FLASHLIGHT, by George Shiras, 3d (National Geographic Society, Washington, D. C.; 2 vols.; cloth, total pp. 938, 950 photographs; price, \$5 the set).

For years the National Geographic Society has made a practice of reprinting in book form various groups of articles having particular educational value that have appeared in the 'National Geographic Magazine'. Quite a number of splendidly illustrated books have thus appeared, and each has presented a special subject in authoritative text with the best photographs and colored plates obtainable. The present work by Mr. Shiras is a distinctive addition to the Society's series of fine books. The author's record of 65 years' visits to the woods and waters of North America, originally published in many articles in the 'Geographic', is revised, rewritten and brought together into this one work. The result is a picture book of the outdoors of great appeal. The illustrations will furnish hours of pleasure, and there is a winter's supply of reading in the two volumes. Anyone with a spark of interest in birds, animals or the outdoors will enjoy the book.

The work of Mr. Shiras is well known. A pioneer nature photographer, he is the man who originated and perfected flashlight photography of wild animals. It was he who first devised methods by which

birds and animals could take their own pictures by daylight and flash-light. The Lake Superior country was the scene of much of his work through the years. Many chapters, covering the varied animal life and his experiences in studying it, have this region as their setting. Mr. Shiras also studied nature in Newfoundland, Alaska, the Canal Zone, Florida, Yellowstone Park, and many states of the Union. On all his trips he was collecting new photographs of wild life and natural scenery and adding to his naturalist knowledge. His great store of photographs, secured during a lifetime of active work, is excellently presented in the book. There are deer, bear, wildcat, moose, beaver and other animal pictures almost without number, and bird photographs by the hundred. Mr. Shiras has always been a militant conservationist. He was author of the now famous Migratory Bird Bill, and worked for other legislation to protect wild life. His conservation policies and principles are in the foreground of his writings; this book contains an urgent appeal to protect our diminishing wild life. The Society is selling the book at cost as part of its educational work. No nature student who is building a library ought to miss securing a copy.—F. J. P.

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'Birds and Mammals of Mount McKinley National Park, Alaska', by Joseph S. Dixon, is a new publication of the U. S. Dept. of the Interior. It has 248 pages, and is illustrated by 85 excellent halftones from photographs. There are 112 species of birds listed, and 34 species of mammals, with text covering them in a thorough manner. This bulletin is for sale by the Supt. of Documents, Govt. Printing Office, Wash., D. C., at 35c a copy. Another bulletin of the Dept. of Interior is a 'Check-list of the Birds of the National Parks', a very useful guide to all the species known to occur in the various parks, issued in a mimeographed book of 486 pages.

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The eleventh volume of Mr. Bent's 'Life Histories of North American Birds' has just been issued (U. S. Natl. Mus. Bull. 170). It covers Part 2 of the Birds of Prey, a book of 582 pages of which 92 pages are halftone plates. It is also for sale by the Supt. of Documents (60c a copy).

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 Polderboer, Emmett, New Hartford, 1937
 Reinke, Dr. D. J., Spirit Lake, '29
 Roberts, Dr. and Mrs. F. L. R., Spirit Lake, 1924 and 1926
 Roberts, Miss Mary Elaine, Iowa City, 1938
 Rogers, Mrs. J. T., Corydon, 1935
 Runkel, Sylvan T., Greenfield, '35
 Savage, Marian H., Coggon, 1938
 Schramm, Frank H., Burlington, 1934
 Scott, Thomas G., Ames, 1937
 Serbousek, Miss Lillian, Cedar Rapids, 1931
 Stebbins, Mrs. Sue L., Mason City, 1938
 Stiles, Bruce F., Sioux City, 1937
 Strickland, J. W., Jr., Mt. Vernon, 1938
 Struck, Dr. K. H., Davenport, '29
 Swem, Theodore, Ames, 1938
 Thomas, Mr. and Mrs. O. S., Rock Rapids, 1929
 Thornburg, Mrs. Ross J., Des Moines, 1937
 Tonkin, Mr. and Mrs. Geo., Des Moines, 1938
 Troeger, Miss Frieda, Des Moines, 1936
 Van Orsdol, Wilma, Cedar Rapids, 1938
 Weber, Alois John, Keokuk, 1929
 Wilharm, Wanda M., Waterloo, '38
 Williams, Mrs. Billy, Atlantic, '33
 Willis, Miss Myra G., Cedar Rapids, 1929
 Winter, Miss Ella June, Carroll, '24
 Wonser, Mrs. C. J., Tama, 1938
 Woodward, Mrs. W. M., Independence, 1929
 Wyth, J. G., Cedar Falls, 1932
 Youngworth, Wm., Sioux City, '26
 Zurawski, Mrs. Arnold, Burlington, 1936

SUBSCRIBERS

- Austin, Dr. O. L., Tuckahoe, N. Y., 1931
 Bent, Arthur C., Taunton, Mass., 1931
 Bishop, Dr. Louis B., Pasadena, Calif., 1934
 Carrier, Ed. S., Portland, Ore., '34
 Doolittle, E. A., Painesville, Ohio, 1934
 Edge, Mrs. C. N., New York, N. Y., 1931
 Ellis, Ralph, Jr., Berkeley, Calif., 1933
 Fisher, Miss Edith, Moline, Ill., '38
 Ganier, Albert F., Nashville, Tenn., 1931
 Guion, Geo. Seth, New Orleans, La., 1933
 Harmanson, J. S. W., New Orleans, La., 1937
 Hicks, Dr. Lawrence E., Columbus, Ohio, 1938
 Jensen, Mrs. A. R., Clarks Grove, Minn., 1931
 Oberholser, Dr. H. C., Washington, D. C., 1932
 Pettingill, Dr. O. S., Northfield, Minn., 1937
 Renoll, Kenneth L., Hanover, Pa., 1931
 Rich, Dr. Guy C., Hollywood, Calif., 1931
 Roberts, Dr. T. S., Minneapolis, Minn., 1931
 Scott, Walter E., Madison, Wis., 1937
 Sherwood, Jack W., Salinas, Calif., 1936
 Smith, Robt. H., St. Charles, Ark., 1935
 Spawn, Gerald B., Mound City, Mo., 1934
 Stoner, Dr. Dayton, Albany, N. Y., 1937
 Todd, H. O., Jr., Murfreesboro, Tenn., 1938

LIBRARIES AND EXCHANGES

This list is nearly the same as published last year (September issue, p. 39) and is omitted in order to save space. There are 41 on the list, with the following distribution: California, 1; Dist. Columbia, 3; Florida, 1; Georgia, 1; Indiana, 1; Illinois, 4; Iowa, 14; Massachusetts, 4; Minnesota, 1; Nebraska, 1; New York, 3; Ohio, 1; Pennsylvania, 2; Tennessee, 1; Washington, 1; Belgium, 1; Canada, 1.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

The State Conservation Commission inaugurated a fine educational project in our state parks during the past summer. Three naturalist guides were selected to conduct trips through the larger parks during a two-month period. Our former President, M. L. Jones, was naturalist at the Ledges State Park, near Boone, Emmett Polderboer was stationed at the Backbone Park in Delaware County, and Wilfred Crabb at Stone Park in Sioux City. These men are members of our Union.

Our information on the vacations of our members is rather meager at this writing. Dr. and Mrs. T. C. Stephens made a trip to West Virginia. Dr. F. L. R. Roberts and family visited Yellowstone National Park. Our Secretary, Miss Kate LaMar, in company with Dr. Ada Hayden and Mrs. Thos. Scott, spent several weeks in a study of birds and other wild life in the vicinity of Ruthven, Iowa. Miss Margaret Murley was a student at the University of Colorado science camp located in the Rockies near Boulder, Colorado. After completing her course she went on to California and other points on the West Coast.

The Wild Life School at McGregor, held during the first two weeks of August, attracted many nature students from Iowa and adjacent states. Three of our members were on the program as lecturers or instructors—Mrs. W. G. MacMartin, Arthur J. Palas and Jack W. Musgrove.

The Postville Nature Club enjoyed a field trip and luncheon in the Backbone State Park on August 14. Mr. Palas was an organizer of the Club, which is now a year or two old. We need more of these local clubs in various parts of the state.

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